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"Civic Engagement at Work for Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

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Five School Improvement Councils named 2020 finalists for annual state Riley Award for SIC Excellence

COLUMBIA – Five South Carolina School Improvement Councils (SICs) have been named statewide 2020 award finalists for their accomplishments in parent and civic engagement within their school communities.

The SC School Improvement Council's annual Dick and Tunky Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence was created in 2002 to recognize the significant contributions made to public education by the more than 13,000 local SIC members who volunteer in the state's 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.

In alphabetical order, this year's Riley Award finalists are:

- Chapin Middle SIC (School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties)
- Flowertown Elementary SIC (Dorchester School District Two)
- Millwood Elementary SIC (Sumter School District)
- Pontiac Elementary SIC (Richland School District Two)
- Round Top Elementary SIC (Richland School District Two)

"These five School Improvement Councils have demonstrated outstanding work on behalf of their school communities," said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chair Dora Leonard. "We congratulate them on their efforts in supporting the impact that parents, educators, and community members can make together for their schools and students."

The winner of the 2020 Riley Award will be selected from this year's finalists by an independent panel of reviewers and announced during the SC-SIC Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 4, in Columbia.

The SC-SIC Riley Award for SIC Excellence is named in honor of former SC Governor and US Education Secretary Richard Riley and his late wife, Tunky, and recognizes the couple's longstanding commitment to quality public education.

Part of the Center for Educational Partnerships within the University of South Carolina College of Education, the SC School Improvement Council (SC-SIC) was established in state law over 40 years ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and other operational resources necessary for the continued success of the community-based SICs in each of the state's K-12 public schools. Additional information on SC-SIC's programmatic efforts can be found online at <http://sic.sc.gov>.

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